

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IGA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02

IO-13 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SS-15 STR-04 /115 W

-----181408 094646 /42

P R 181219Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0780

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 2863

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, EINV, PFOR, SF, UK

SUBJ: BRITISH FIRMS IN SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 26785

1. CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY (CBI) HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH COPIES OF "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL" AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINING REPORT ON JOINT CBI/UK SA TRADE ASSOCIATION (UKSATA) MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 1 TO DISCUSS HOW TO FORMULATE CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO LABOR PRACTICES IN SOUTH AFRICA. REPRESENTATIVES OF OVER 100 COMPANIES PARTICIPATED. "STRONG" CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT PRESSURES IN UK MAKE IT "HIGHLY DESIRABLE" TO WORK OUT POLICY GUIDE LINES ON LABOR RELATIONS. IT WAS AGREED THAT COMMITMENT TO DEVELOP GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF BLACK EMPLOYEES, INITIALLY THROUGH WORKS OR LIAISON COMMITTEES AND "IF APPROPRIATE" THROUGH TRADE UNIONS, SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN END PRODUCT.

2. IT WAS NOTED IN REPORT THAT MEMBERS FEEL THAT IDEALLY
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LEAD SHOULD COME FROM SOUTH AFRICA. THEREFORE, SOUTH AFRICAN FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES AND THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE WILL BE ASKED FOR HELP IN DRAFTING POSSIBLE GUIDELINES. CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR OF UKSATA WILL ALSO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT DURING THEIR VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA IN MARCH. AT SAME TIME ERIC FRANK OF BRISTOL UNIVERSITY WILL VISIT SOUTH AFRICA

TO CONDUCT SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FACILITIES AND RELATED QUESTIONS FOR CBI. WHEN REPORT FROM THESE SOURCES ARE RECEIVED, PROBABLY IN EARLY APRIL, CBI WILL HOLD ANOTHER MEETING AT WHICH ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO HAMMER OUT FIRM GUIDELINES. ACCORDING TO CBI SOURCES, DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES REFERRED TO IN REFTEL SHOULD BE DECIDED AT THIS MEETING. THEY HAVE PROMISED TO PROVIDE US WITH "INFORMAL, PRELIMINARY" COPIES AS SOON AS IT IS DRAFTED.

3. COPIES OF CBI AIDE MEMOIRE AND BACKGROUND PAPER ON THE LEGISLATIVE BASIS OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL MATTERS IN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH WAS CIRCULATED AT FEBRUARY 1 MEETING WILL BE POUCHED TO AF/S, CAPETOWN AND PRETORIA.
ARMSTRONG

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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